

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN BOB DAVIES**, on January 15, 2001 at 9:05 A.M., in Room 317-B Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Bob Davies, Chairman (R)
Sen. Jack Wells, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. John Brueggeman (R)
Rep. Monica Lindeen (D)
Sen. Bea McCarthy (D)
Sen. Corey Stapleton (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Greg DeWitt, Legislative Branch
Mary Beth Linder, OBPP
Cyndie Lockett, Committee Secretary

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted:
Executive Action: Accounting & Management
Support; Architecture and
Engineering; State Personnel;
State Tax Appeal Board

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 30}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON ACCOUNTING & MANAGEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

Chairman Davies called the meeting to order.

Mr. DeWitt discussed where the subcommittee left off from Friday's executive action. They were on the Accounting & Management Support Program. The section was proprietary rates for Network Support Unit (A/E 06560) and for Warrant Writer (A/E 06564). He gave the subcommittee a handout **EXHIBIT(jgh11a01)**.

Motion: **SEN. MCCARTHY** move to approve a maximum of 60-day working capital reserve as the rate and \$714 per computer for fiscal year 2002 and \$732 per computer for fiscal year and \$1072 per server for fiscal year 2002 and \$1098 per server for fiscal year 2003 for the Network Support Unit.

Sen. Stapleton asked what the day count on working capital was at this time. **Mrs. Muri** stated 26 days. **Sen. Stapleton** didn't understand why she was asking for 60-day when it seems they don't need it. **Mr. DeWitt** said you are voting on the cost to maintain the computers on a fix rate which provides one FTE. The programmer situation would be that person may need training and other things. That is why they are requesting 60-day because they just don't know what the programmer will entail.

Sen. Wells asked for a justification on why so much for each computer. **Mr. Muri** explained its not so much the computer as the software that needs this programmer.

Mr. Linder explained in further detail the work that the programmer would be doing.

Rep. Brueggeman asked about ISD Department and what they do. **Mr. Muri** said they deal with the wires in the wall and make the network talk. If you have a question on software you go to your network support person. **Rep. Brueggeman** asked if every department had a network support person and **Mrs. Muri** answered that is correct.

Chairman Davies asked what the hangup was when trying to collect money from these other agencies. **Mrs. Muri** said many of these agencies are proprietary also and they are waiting on people to pay them so they can pay her agency.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Davies asked **Mrs. Muri** to justify again the 20% increase. **Mrs. Muri** said the reason for increase is four fold. First there was a postage increase, warrant stock going up, maintenance, and SABHRS. She had mainframe costs that she didn't plan for during the 2000 & 2001.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 30 - 60}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON WARRANT WRITER

Motion: SEN. STAPLETON move to approve rates as requested for the Network Support Unit.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON ARCHITECTURE & ENGINEERING PROGRAM

Motion: REP. BRUEGGEMAN moved the base level of funding plus statewide present law adjustments, the additional vacancy savings included in present law DP 699, and the rent reduction in present law DP 698 for Architecture & Engineering Program.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried unanimously with a proxy from Wells voting aye.

Motion: REP. BRUEGGEMAN moved to approve present law DP 1 as requested.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried unanimously with a proxy from Wells voting aye.

Motion: SEN. STAPLETON moved to have additional vacancy savings of 6% over and above the 4%.

Sen. Stapleton explained you have a position open and you only have so much money. Then you decide to pay the person more then it becomes part of present law adjustments.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 30}

Sen. McCarthy pointed out that the subcommittee would be cutting this agency short and this would cause problems even lawsuits.

Rep. Lindeen wanted to see the dollar amount after the 10% increase in Vacancy Savings. **Sen. Stapleton** replied about \$60,000.

Rep. Brueggeman wanted to know if this Warms Spring Lawsuit could have been avoided if he would have hired someone. **Mr. O'Connell** answered I can't give you without doubt a correct answer, but I can tell you that we worked hard. We had an on site person there and we remove one superintendent because he was not getting the job done. He believed that they had a contractor that had what he needed to make it work and he chose to let it go. **Mr. O'Connell** felt it wasn't an important enough job for the contractor.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion failed 5-1 with Stapleton voting aye with a proxy from Wells voting no .

Mr. DeWitt led the committee into the next Executive Action pertaining to HB 2 portion and proprietary portion.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON STATE PERSONNEL DIVISION

Motion: **SEN. MCCARTHY** moved the base level of funding plus statewide present law adjustments, the additional vacancy savings included in present law DP 699, and the rent reduction in present law DP 698 for State Personnel Division.

Motion: **SEN. STAPLETON** moved to amend the motion to add an additional vacancy savings of 1% over and above the 4%.

Sen. McCarthy asked how much would it go up with the 1% increase. **Mr. DeWitt** replied \$10,000 roughly.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried 4-2 with McCarthy and Lindeen voting no with a proxy from Wells voting aye.

Vote: The question was called for on amended motion and the motion carried 4-2 with McCarthy and Lindeen voting no proxy from Wells voting aye.

Mr. DeWitt told the subcommittee they pulled the supplemental so not to worry about it.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 30 - 60}

Motion: **Sen. Stapleton** move to fund the day care at 11,000 per year.

Mrs. Linder asked for clarification on the motion. **Sen. Stapleton** said he wanted to reduce DP 1 by \$13,000 per year.

Rep. Lindeen asked **Mr. McEwen** how much rent was. **Mr. McEwen** answered \$26,000 a year. She then asked why he was asking for \$31,538.

Chairman Davies asked if the charges for the state day care are less than the charges by the local day care in the private sector. **Mr. McEwen** said that the state was about \$15 less than the private sector.

Rep. Brueggeman asked how many children are state kids and how many are not in the day care at this time. **Mr. McEwen** answered 36 state kids and 18 non-state kids.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion failed 3-3 with McCarthy, Lindeen, and Brueggeman voting no with a proxy from Wells voting aye.

Motion: Sen. McCarthy move to approve DP1 as requested.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 30}

Motion: Rep. Lindeen move to amend motion by reducing DP 1 by \$2000 each year.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried unanimously with a proxy from Wells voting aye.

Vote: The question was called for and vote on amended motion and the motion carried unanimously with a proxy from Wells voting aye.

Motion: Sen. McCarthy move to approve proprietary fund 06525 for \$113.00 per hour each year.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried unanimously with a proxy from Wells voting aye.

Motion: Sen. McCarthy moved to have language the same as on R-6 of HB 2 1999

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 30}

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried unanimously with a proxy from Wells voting aye.

Mr. DeWitt introduces payroll proprietary fund 06563 will be the next proprietary fund the subcommittee will vote on. **Sen.**

Stapleton asked why a negative on the retain earnings. **Mrs. Muri** answered that SABHRS cost was what caused the negative.

Motion: **REP. BRUEGGEMAN** move allocations of 356,958 in fiscals year 2002 and \$366,248 in the fiscal year 2003.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried 5-1 with **Stapleton** voting no and with proxy from **Wells** voting aye.

Mr. DeWitt explained the next program to discuss was the State Tax Appeal Board. He also stated it if funded all in HB 2.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON STATE TAX APPEAL BOARD

Motion: **Sen. Stapleton** move the base level of funding plus statewide present law adjustments, the additional vacancy savings included in present law DP 699, and the rent reduction in present law DP 698 for State Tax Appeal Board.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried unanimously with a proxy from **Wells** voting aye.

Motion: **Sen. Stapleton** move to substitute the Vacancy Savings in DP 1 with the 27 percent historical vacancy savings over and above 4 percent in present law DP 699.

Vote: The question was called for and the motion carried unanimously with a proxy from **Wells** voting aye.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:00 P.M.

REP. BOB DAVIES, Chairman

CYNDIE LOCKETT, Secretary

BD/CL

EXHIBIT (jgh11aad)